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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2529
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RUEHDIR/IRAN RPO DUBAI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAKU 000279

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/06/2017

TAGS: [ENRG](#) [ETTC](#) [EUN](#) [PREL](#) [IR](#) [AM](#) [AJ](#)

SUBJECT: AZERBAIJAN ON IRAN SANCTIONS ACT (FORMERLY ILSA)

REF: STATE 22311

Classified By: ADCM Joan Polaschik for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. (C) Embassy Iran Watcher delivered reftel points on the Iran Sanctions Act (ISA, formerly ILSA) to MFA America's Desk Officer Elchin Bashirow on March 6. Bashirow thanked us and said that the GOAJ fully understood USG concerns about investment in Iran's oil and gas sector. Bashirow also raised the issue of Armenia's recently completed natural gas pipeline with Iran, suggesting that this might fall under the purview of ISA. (Comment: As we understand the provisions of ISA, the Armenia-Iran pipeline does not meet ISA criteria. However, if our understanding is incorrect, we would appreciate guidance from the Department to address Bashirow's concern.)

DERSE